

The Kansas Chief.

BOL. MILLER, EDITOR.

WHITE CLOUD, KANSAS:
Thursday, : : December 17, 1857.

AGENTS.

J. E. DENNING, (Successor to W. S. Barnard,) North-West Corner of Olive and Main Streets, St. Louis, is our Agent in that City, for collecting Subscriptions and Advertisements, and making collections for the Chief.
J. J. ROSS, Esq., Post Master, Oregon, Mo.
J. T. MARRAS, West Alexandria, Freble Co., O.

As We Expected.—The article in relation to the school house, in last week's paper, gave mortal offence to some, just as we anticipated; because we know the nature of some people so well, that we look for them to get angry at articles, even if they have to pervert their meaning, to render them offensive. When persons are determined to get offended at something in a paper, they will do so, whether there is any cause for it or not. And we have become so used to having people rip and roar at articles in our paper, that we feel there is something wrong when an issue appears that does not miff some one.

Some persons accuse us of charging them with misapplying the funds subscribed for the house, (in other words, stealing them,) together with other dishonorable acts. We did no such thing; and it requires the grossest misconception of our language, to give it any such meaning. Yet such misconception has been put upon it; and men whose calling it should be to promote peace and good feeling, not being able to do all the raving themselves, have undertaken to implicate others in the imaginary charge of dishonesty. Not succeeding at first, they have read and re-read our article to them, placing a particular stress and emphasis upon certain portions of it, until they have led these persons to believe that we have slandered them, and consequently, incensed them against us. If they call this an honorable business, will they please give us their definition of dishonorable?

Now, the truth of the matter is, we believed these persons to be honest, and that they had made the funds collected reach as far as they could. We knew that the subscriptions reached some three or four hundred dollars, but we did not know how much had been collected. But as those touchy persons have undertaken to say that certain statements in our article were manufactured for the occasion, we will again allude to several items. Just before he started East, Mr. Markham was employed by the carpenter to file a lien on the house, which was done, and those interested in the matter, can find the lien on record, in the office of the County Clerk, at Troy—but we cannot see that this is a charge of dishonesty against those who managed the building. And we have heard much dissatisfaction expressed, on account of the report that the house was being built principally for a church, but that they would permit school to be held in it. Every one knows that a house built for church purposes is not convenient for a school. It does not help the matter, to say that those who grumble the most, no doubt paid the least. If a man pays no more than five cents, he has a right to see that it is applied to the purpose for which he intended it. We also remarked, that we understood it required but very little additional funds to complete the house, and advised the citizens to look to it.

And this is what has aroused the ire of some, who imagine that we have charged them with dishonesty, and will not be convinced otherwise. It does look a little suspicious, to see men fly up so savagely at a fancied accusation. They know best—if they are so fond of hugging fast to the charge, let them have it so. Let any one read the article, without the intention of perverting its meaning, and see if he can discover any scandalous accusation in it. When people subscribe money for any object, they have a right to know how the work progresses; and we have yet to learn any good reason why, because men are honest, nobody has a right to know what they are doing. A threat has been made, to publish a full statement of all the operations of the managers of the house. Let it be done—it will hurt nobody, and may satisfy many. Since so much fuss has been made about the matter, we think it would be a good plan to make an exhibit of the whole thing—the amount subscribed; the receipts and expenditures; how much was received in cash, how much in lumber, and how much in work; the amount paid out for work, lumber, hauling; and all other items concerning the building.

KANSAS NEWSPAPERS.—The Geary City Era has again been received. It had suspended for a few weeks. Mr. Grant has retired from the paper, which is now under the control of Messrs. Thompson and Marble.

The dimensions of the Squatter Sovereign have been cut down one column to the page.

The Leavenworth Times reaches us occasionally. We rather like the paper, and are sorry it is not sent (or, if sent, does not come) to us regularly.

The Delaware Free State, Wyandotte Citizen, and Tecumseh Note Book, have suspended.

An Important Project.

As we intimated, a few weeks since, the Missouri Legislature, at its recent session, granted a charter for a State Road, commencing on the bank of the Missouri River, opposite White Cloud, and running to the Iowa State line, in a direct line for Fort Des Moines, the Capital of that State. A petition will be presented to the Iowa Legislature, at its coming session, to continue the Road to Fort Des Moines, which will no doubt be granted. A petition will be presented to the next Legislature of this Territory, for a Road leading from White Cloud to Fort Riley, and there is no reason to believe this will be refused. An effort will then be made, to obtain of the present Congress, a tri-weekly mail service, with a line of coaches, between Fort Des Moines and White Cloud; and from White Cloud to Fort Riley. As this route will be through an important and rapidly growing section of country, there is every reason to believe that the effort will be successful; and if so, will be put into operation, the coming Spring.

This project will be of immense benefit to White Cloud, and the country through which the route passes. There is now a vast amount of travel between middle and Western Iowa, and Kansas; but at present, it all goes through Nebraska. But the projected route will lessen the length of time necessary to make the trip, about two days; and the facilities afforded by a line of coaches, and a steam ferry at this place, will draw all the travel down this way—thereby mutually benefiting our town and the traveller. Fort Riley is an important point in Kansas, and a regular connection with it, will be a matter of no little consequence.

But this road will also open the way for a still more important project. It is already settled, that an effort will be made, at no distant day, to obtain charters for a Railroad over the same route, and to secure from Congress a grant of land for the same. Fort Des Moines is already connected by Railroad with Chicago, and Chicago with all the Eastern cities. By a Railroad to Fort Des Moines, White Cloud would be but several days' journey distant from the East; and our place is on a direct line from Fort Des Moines to Fort Riley, from which place a Railroad will some day be built to Santa Fe. The Railroad to the Pacific, will, without doubt, pass by or near Fort Riley, to Ft. Kearney and the South Pass, by which we would have connection with that important thoroughfare.

It may seem to some like making wild calculations, to be speaking of these projects at this time; but roads in the directions indicated, will, without doubt, be built, within a few years—and now is the time to agitate the matter, and determine the best and most practicable routes. We think it can easily be demonstrated that the best routes are those which we have indicated. This route is naturally adapted for building a Railroad, and the country through which it will pass, is one of the richest in the world. Let the question be agitated, and the Road will be built.

"CINCINNATUS."—A communication upon the Slavery question, over the above signature, was recently received by us, for publication. Being desirous of giving a fair hearing of all sides of the question, we were on the point of placing it in the hands of the compositor, when we received the Holt County News, containing the same communication, written for that paper. As it does not contain sufficient interest or depth to justify its appearance in two papers published almost within sight of each other, we must let it go by the board. However, we will remark that it is the same old sing-song that has been heard from time immemorial—"the quickest way to get rid of Slavery, is to extend it"—like spreading a very small lump of butter over a very large slice of bread, we suppose. It is impossible to eradicate an evil, by extending it. As well attempt to stop the ravages of the small pox, by spreading it over the entire country. Another argument is, that if we have any regard for the welfare of the negro, we should permit him to leave the worn-out soil of the old Slave States, and come to the fertile plains of Kansas. Why this ceaseless talk about the worn-out soil of the Slave States? What wears it out? The soil of New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, has been cultivated as long as that of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Kentucky; yet who ever heard of their soil being worn out? It has been cultivated by free white labor—there is the difference. Why, even New England, where they have to shoot the grains of wheat between the granite rocks from shot guns—we do not hear of her soil being worn out—and yet they have no slaves there—a negro could not produce enough to keep him alive there, in a whole year. On the other hand, Virginia, with her broad and fertile valleys, growing under the incubus of Slavery, continually sends up the cry of worn-out soil. If Slavery wears out the soil of a State, that is a sufficient reason why it should not be extended. We do not want the soil of Kansas to be worn out by slave labor.

We understand that a fight came off in this place, one day last week, between a married and an unmarried female, in which the married one came off victorious, upsetting her antagonist, and rolling her down a hill!

DISGRACEFUL—AN INDIAN KILLED.

We have frequently mentioned the fact, that some person in this neighborhood has been in the habit of selling whiskey to the Indians, and warned the community against persons who would do such a thing, as being a disgrace, and endangering the life of the citizens, as an Indian, naturally savage, is a perfect brute when he is drunk. The effect is now being seen. On last Friday evening, the Iowa had a drunken spree, at their village, several miles from here, in which they got into a quarrel, when one stabbed the other, causing his death. They got the whiskey of a man named Idle, living near Cedar Creek, about two miles south of this place, who has been engaged in this traffic for some time past, as we learn from one of his neighbors.

But the affray at the village is not the worst of it. If the Indians quarrelled only among themselves, it would not concern the whites so much. But towards evening of the day on which the above affray occurred, some drunken Indians left this Idle's house, and passed by a neighbor's, by the name of Moffat. Only Mrs. Moffat and two small children were at home. One Indian entered the house, and in a brutal manner ordered her to leave immediately. He said he would go out, and be back in a few minutes, when he wanted her to be gone. She made no move towards going, when presently the Indian's squaw came and told her she had better go, intimating that the Indian would kill her, if he came back, and found her still there. She immediately sallied a horse, and when about starting, the Indian came back, and told her to hurry and be gone. She went, leaving the Indians in possession of her horse. She went to the house of Mr. Jones, a short distance off, where her husband followed, when he came home. He remained there all night, and the last we heard, the woman could not be induced to return home, for fear of losing her life. But a few days before that, an Indian was coming drunk from the same place, and meeting a little son of Mr. Jones, spit upon him, and attempted to knock him down with his war-club. The boy ran, but the Indian was too drunk to catch him, or the boy might have lost his life.

This is overdoing the thing. We are not in favor of mob-law, if it can be avoided; but when a man persists in selling liquor to the Indians, thereby placing the lives of his neighbors in jeopardy, should be warned once to desist, and if he does not comply with the demand, his house should be blown to the four winds, and himself tarred and feathered, and cowhided every step out of the Territory.

A gentleman was here, last week, from the large settlement on Pony Creek, in Brown County, who informed us that they are about sending a petition to the Department, for the establishment of a Post Office in that neighborhood—perhaps at Plymouth, or in the vicinity. They will receive their mails from this place, via Padonia. We are glad to see the people moving in this matter. Padonia made the start, and others are following suit. We understand that an office has been established at Mt. Roy for some time past, but as yet they have no mail route. When the petition was first got up, it was intended to have the mails carried from this place; but persons of another town wheedled the originators of the petition into the notion of receiving the mail from their place. The consequence is, they are neglected, and get no mail at all. Padonia chose this place, and had to wait no longer than was necessary to make the proper arrangements; and it would have been the same with Mt. Roy, if they had stuck to us. We guarantee, that if they yet come back to their original intention, it will be but a little time ere they have a regular mail. We have a daily mail here, which no other neighboring town has, and this is of the greatest advantage to the back country.

SMALL POTATOES.—Mr. Elisha Huffman—don't understand us to say that Mr. Huffman is "small potatoes;" for you see, people misconstrue things now-a-days, just for the pleasure of getting "grassy" at them—but Mr. Huffman sent us a basket full of small potatoes, raised on his farm, in Brown County. The basket was jammed full, and held just twenty-three potatoes, the whole weighing sixteen pounds, or averaging nearly three-fourths of a pound each. The largest weighed one pound and a half, and several weighed a pound each. That's Kansas for you. There were several among the lot, such as we had been in the habit of calling "whoppers;" but by the side of some of the larger ones, they looked like walnuts in size. Who can beat "Pryor"?

ANOTHER SPECIMEN.—We are receiving fresh proofs daily, that the late Constitutional Convention was composed of the salt of the earth. It is said that Randolph, the man who declared that he did not believe a nigger was a human being, could neither read nor write, and boasted of the fact! And President Buchanan says the people of Kansas must be governed by the work of such creatures, whether they want to or not—does he?

The papers mention that the race horse Pryor recently died in England. But the breed will soon be replenished—Stephen is yet on hand!

AN OBJECTION.—We have heard of but very little opposition in Brown County, to the proposed alteration of County lines. One objection, urged by some few persons, is, that there are always more fights, robberies, and difficulties of all kinds in river towns, more than in inland towns, and that would cause an expense to the County, in the way of trials, jails, &c., which the taxes of the people out there would have to help to defray. This is a poor argument. On the contrary, it would lessen the taxes of the balance of the County. The County buildings must be erected, and the fewer people there are in the County, the greater will be each one's taxes. Then, a great part of their trade necessarily must go to a river town, which they will assist to build up. If there were such a town in their County, they could concentrate their trade there, and the taxes on the property which they would build up, would remain in their own County, and make their taxes lighter. This matter is too plain to need argument.

The real secret of what opposition there is to this measure, lies in selfish considerations. There are just about six towns out there, which are in the centre of the County, and bound to be the County Seat; and if the lines are changed, it will throw them out of position. For this petty consideration, they oppose a measure which will be of the utmost advantage to the entire County. And what is a County Seat? It does not amount to anything, after all. If a town have a good situation, and superior advantages, it will prosper, whether the County Seat be there or not. And we would respectfully hint to these towns, that they cannot all be the County Seat. One will succeed, and the balance will have to look on. Then why act so selfishly in the matter? If they think White Cloud wants the County Seat, they are mistaken. White Cloud has advantages which will build her up, without the paltry aid which would accrue from the County Seat being located here. And she would hardly have so little regard for the convenience of the people of the balance of the County, as to want the County Seat in the extreme corner, just for the sake of having a couple of County buildings here. They consider that the consummation of the project would be a benefit alike to this place and to Brown County; and that is all they seek for.

BUCHANAN AGAINST KANSAS.—Numerous reports from Washington concur in saying that President Buchanan is determined to use his influence to have Kansas admitted under the Lecompton Constitution, no matter what provisions it may contain, or whether it be submitted to a vote of the people or not, regardless of the opinions of a majority of the people here. The only hope then is in Congress. The Philadelphia Press, edited by Col. Forney, who has perhaps more influence with his party than any man in the North, says that there is but one Democratic member of Congress from the North, who will vote for the admission of Kansas, unless the whole Constitution be submitted to a vote of the people. We hardly think that they will disregard the voice of the whole people of Kansas and of the North, their party included. But Buchanan may prevail over them, and bring them under his thumb, as Pierce did, in regard to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. If Congress deserts the people of Kansas, they will then have to look out for themselves, and it will be the people against the Federal Government. The determination of the people cannot be misunderstood. Not only Kansas, but the whole North, will have a hand in the matter—and then we will see the beginning of that time which has so long been "read about."

We have seen our name on a ticket, as Manager of a Ball to come off at Iowa Point, on Christmas Eve. We should like to be there, and give them some of our graceful and unique steps. We would execute the Highland Fling, putting in some of the fancy touches of Fanny Elsler and Lola Montez. As an after-act, we would go through the new Polish dance, the "Summerstetzy," in which the gentleman and his partner go through all manner of fiddle-jigs, such as throwing summersets, holding each other out at arms' length at the same time, and concluding by standing on their heads, and whirling around like chestnuts on a hot shovel!

We re-publish, in this week's paper, the article on "White Cloud and the Surrounding Country," which we published in some three or four issues, a few weeks since. We have recently had application for a number of copies of the paper containing the article, from members of the City Company residing in distant States, but are unable to accommodate them, except by re-publishing the article. But it is all truth, and no one will lose anything by it. We likewise re-publish an article which appeared in last week's paper.

WHY IS IT?—We have often wondered why it is, that those persons in Slave States, who never owned a nigger, and never expect to be able to own the toenail of one, are the most rabid and sensitive on the question of Slavery, and always ready to fight the hardest for it; while those who own the most slaves, are generally the most reasonable. Who can tell?

A WEDGE IN THE CAMP.—The Democracy of Kansas are about having a flare-up among themselves. The fire-eating, Pro-Slavery portion, which is much the smaller part, has run the thing into the ground, and disgusted the reasonable portion. The latter will not swallow the Constitution, and will not unite in any organization under it. It is probable that a majority of them will imitate the Free State party, and not vote on the Constitution at all. The Leavenworth Herald and the Doniphan Constitutionalist are the only papers in the Territory, that stick to the fire-eaters, and the latter is about "pegging out." The Central Committee, composed of such men as Calhoun, Henderson & Co., have called a Convention to nominate a State ticket to be voted for on the first Monday in January, agreeably to the Lecompton Constitution. The Lecompton Democrat repudiates it, and says it does not belong to such Democracy as that Committee represent, and will not be bound by its action. The Leavenworth Journal, under its new auspices, takes the same ground; and we believe that even the Kickapoo Pioneer goes the same way. The great mass of the Democratic party of Kansas are of the same mind. So the Lecompton humbug meets with poor encouragement all around.

In this County, the fire-eaters are hopelessly in the little end of the horn, notwithstanding they were represented in the Constitutional Convention, by Key, Vanderslice, and perhaps one or two others. Capt. Ego, of Doniphan, one of the Democratic leaders of this County, is out against the Constitution, hot and heavy. We believe he was formerly an American. He was advertised to speak at Doniphan, on Saturday last, in opposition to the Constitution. We understand that he undertook to speak at Troy, a few days before that, when the fire-eaters attempted to hiss and boot him down, and threatened violence. But he drew his revolver, and made them "come to Limerick."

Even at Iowa Point, we are told, fire-eating is becoming unpopular, and some of the party are kicking. If this be true, then there surely must be "something rotten in Denmark." We are told that some of the leaders there, declare they are done with trying to force slavery upon the people of Kansas; that they have more regard for the Democratic party than they have for slavery, and will not kill the one, in the attempt to build up the other. On the other hand, some of them are for slavery all the time, no matter whether it kills the Democratic party as "dead as a door nail." Let them go—we are glad to see men beginning to listen to reason. There is yet hope for Kansas.

A GOOD SIGN.—White Cloud is still rising. Although not at present making any pretensions to anything but a retail market, she is yet getting into a wholesome trade. During the recent fall, a considerable business of this kind was transacted with the back country. Last week, Ruffner & Co. fitted out a store for Brown County; and this week they filled a like order for Nemaha. When this kind of trade is centering here, while the town is yet in her infancy, with scarcely any facilities at all, what will she be, after the improvements of next season, and of future years?

While we are on the subject of dry goods and groceries, we will remark, that one of our citizens a few days since went to St. Joseph, on business, and while there, thought he would lay in some necessary articles, cheap. But he says he could not get them a cent lower than they are retailed here. According to this, persons who go to St. Joseph to trade, in preference to this place, are losing time and money.

A QUESTION.—The Lecompton Constitution entirely does away with the Legislature; and the Legislature will probably do away with the Constitution. Dings wants to know whether that won't be somewhat like the snake and frog which were fighting. The snake caught the frog, and commenced swallowing him, when the frog caught the snake's tail, and commenced swallowing too. So they kept on swallowing each other, until they were both entirely gone!

During the whole of this month, we have had most beautiful weather. The past week has had more of the appearance of the first week of October, than the second week of December. The river has not yet been closed by ice, but is very low. However, on Tuesday evening, we noticed that it had risen several feet, and was still rising.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—White Cloud has at length got what she has long needed—a good Boot and Shoe Maker. Joseph Morehead's advertisement will be found in another column. He is prepared to do all kinds of work in the making and mending line. Give him a call.

SPEAKING OUT.—The Plattsmouth Jeffersonian, an Independent Democratic paper, talks right out in meeting. It is in favor of Nebraska being a Free State, and wants the question settled at once, notwithstanding the cry that there is no danger of her being a Slave State. The Jeffersonian is right. Now is the time to settle that matter. They have Kansas before them, as an example. If they are not watchful, when the time comes for forming a Constitution, they will find a pack of usurpers foisted upon them, who will force them to have a Slave Constitution, whether they want it or not. It will be done in the name of "Democracy," and the Administration will fasten it upon them with Federal bayonets. The Jeffersonian says:—

SLAVERY IN NEBRASKA.—Will Nebraska be a Free State? is a question we often hear asked, and nearly always answered in the affirmative. Nearly always we say, for we have heard the answer, by the over-loyal to the South, "we don't care a— which it is." But we think the time has come when the question should be settled, and set at rest. Is Nebraska a Free Territory? Many think it is, but is it so in truth? In truth it is not, for slaves are held in the Territory at this time, and there is no law to prevent it. We hold that the Legislature of this Territory has the right to pass a law excluding slavery from the Territory, and if excluded from the Territory, there will be no danger of its being allowed in the State when formed. We believe it to be the duty of our next Legislature which is to meet on the 8th of next month, to pass a law totally excluding the noxious institution from our soil, and making the slaves free, if their owners persist in bringing them here. We are in favor of Nebraska as a FREE TERRITORY, and Nebraska as a FREE STATE. Men may tell us that there is no danger, and that it is only useless agitation to start the question now. But we do not wish agitation now, nor to have the question open for agitation hereafter, but that the question may be now settled and thus forever shut the door to agitation.

SOMETHING FOR THE NORTH.—The following, which we take from the St. Joseph Gazette, is cool, decidedly. Can any one wonder at the agitation of the Slavery question, or that there are so many Abolitionists, as they are called, in the North, when Southern people seriously talk of such a thing as this. When they claim a right to hold slaves in a Free State, or that a State cannot be free, if its people will it, and their Constitution guarantees it, we imagine they will have a pleasant time in attempting to make a practical application of the idea:—

THE RIGHTS OF SLAVEHOLDERS.—It appears that the position taken by S. B. Green, Esq., of Andrew county, that it is unconstitutional to prevent slaveholders from going into and living in a Free State with their slaves, is gaining ground in some quarters. The Washington Union, we see by some of our exchanges, takes the same view of the subject, and contends that a "slaveholder may remove with his slaves into any Free State and hold them there." This matter has been ably discussed by Mr. Green, both through the columns of the Gazette, and in a pamphlet, which has had an extensive circulation throughout the South and West. If the articles of Mr. Green have had an effect to convince the editor of the Union, of the correctness of his position, and the same opinion should become at all prevalent in the minds of any number of people at the North, Greeley and his abolition horde of followers may have their hands full to keep slavery out of States that are already free. It certainly would effect one good object, if the matter were discussed and agitated at the North—it would employ the "negro philanthropists" at home, and their meddling in the affairs of other States, as at present, would entirely cease.

A. G. PATRICK, formerly an editor, at Greencastle, Indiana, is one of the Free State Representatives in the Territorial Legislature. The Eastern papers had him hung at Leavenworth, in the Summer of 1856, for the benefit of Fremont!

THE LEGISLATURE.—Up to the time of going to press, we have heard nothing from the called session of the Legislature. We had hoped to be able to lay its action before our readers, in this week's issue, but cannot do so.

We are receiving frequent applications for copies of the paper containing the Lecompton Constitution. We should be pleased to accommodate all, but we are totally out of papers of that number.

WANTED.—Some wandering Arab, to go about the country, gassing against the Chief. Here is a good chance for some one whose inclination leads him to engage in such business, but not much else.

Next Monday is the day appointed for voting in favor of the Lecompton Constitution. We hear but very little said about it, and probably none but the fire-eaters will vote.

One of our exchanges carries the motto—"We go where Democratic principles lead the way." Then, all we have to say is, that he is going to Hell as fast as he can go!

FAST AGROUND.—At last accounts the Edinburg and Emma were fast aground a short distance above the mouth of little Platte—probably quartered there for the winter. The Emma we understand passed up Saturday night and finding the Edinburg aground took a position near by. Misery loves company, is an old adage.

NEW LIGHT BURNED.—The Steamer New Lucy, of the Lightning Line, was burned to the water's edge on the night of the 25th ult., opposite Dewit, in the Missouri River.

Correspondence.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.
Friday, November 27, 1857.
EDITOR KANSAS CHIEF.—For a week past we have had quite a foretaste of Winter. Great overcasts and blizzards cold fires have been, compared with previous winters, rather prematurely called into requisition. Yesterday and to-day, however, the weather has been more balmy and pleasant, and appearances indicate that we may yet have a sprinkling of those languishing days, yelet "Indian Summer," before the Winter King usurps his icy throne, de facto.
Political matters are at a low ebb, and even the much-agitated question of "slavery or no slavery" in Kansas, fails to excite even interest enough to get up a conversation. The great financial panic, that has within the last few months swept like a tornado over the country, shaking the commercial interests of the United States, with a crashing and unrelenting violence, prostrating in its wild sweep the most substantial and reliable business firms in the East and the West, the North and the South—this, is the all important and all-absorbing topic that is discussed on "Change and off" "Change" on the street and in the counting-room—in the saloon over a sparkling bumper—and even in the Church over the gilt-edged and golden-clasped prayer-book. Money—money—money—is the lurid talisman that swallows up every other consideration of interest and of good. Gold is the magnetic shrine to which men bow—the manly form of Youth—and the crouching shape of Age, with its locks of silvered gray—all—do homage most devout to the yellow god. Gold! thou shining thing! what invaluable treasures are daily being offered upon thy gilded shrine. On thy altar mankind have
"Sacrificed ease, peace,
Truth, faith, integrity, good conscience, friends,
Love, charity, benevolence, and all
The sweet and tender sympathies of life;
And to complete the horrid, ghastly rite
And signalize their folly, offered up
Their souls, and an eternity of bliss,
To gain them—what? an hour of dreaming joy—
A feverish hour—that lasted but a day,
And ended in the bitterness of woe."
Both lectures and places of amusement are sparsely attended this season. Theaters are doing but little more at present than paying expenses. The "National" during the past summer has been enlarged and improved, in every respect, and in point of beauty, architecture, and superb and substantial finish exceeds any similar building in the West. It is a durable building to the Queen City, and ranks among the foremost amid the great number of specimens of architectural building, that have arisen within the last two years in this metropolis.
Last night, Park Benjamin read his new humorous poem, entitled "Hard Times," before a select audience, at Smith and Nixon's Hall. It is filled with keen and pungent satire, and its piercing shafts of wit flew thick and fast, striking deep in many places. His lecture is to be repeated to-morrow evening. Quite a number of lecturers are announced for the coming winter—among them Shillibear, (next Tuesday evening,) editor of the Boston Post, and the veritable "Mr. Partington."
On Thanksgiving Day, Billy Birch, the renowned Minstrel, who is here with his Troupe, giving concerts at the Melodion Hall—announced flaming posters—that he would distribute, on that day, at 11 o'clock, A. M., one thousand loaves of bread to the poor of Cincinnati, "without money and without price." The isolated act, of course, was a charitable one—but the motive—pecuniary gain. Humbug will never die. His bread, however, became somewhat of a drug upon his hands—and it was with difficulty that he could dispose of it. The people of Cincinnati are not yet in a starving condition—they have the means within themselves to relieve their wants without the aid of Billy Birch, in his peculiar, boasting, pompous style. But I have no doubt the trick will win—for humbug has a healthy growth.
Yours, &c.,
OBLINGER.

Free State Meeting.
An adjourned meeting of the citizens of Brown County, was held at Padonia, December 9th, 1857.
On motion, Mr. I. P. Winslow was called to the Chair, and D. McFarland appointed Secretary.
The object of the meeting was stated by the Chair, to be to hear a report of the Delegates who attended the Free State Convention at Lawrence.
After hearing an elaborate account of the proceedings at Lawrence, on motion, a committee of three were appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the meeting; which committee reported the following resolutions, which were adopted.
Resolved, 1st, That we fully endorse the proceedings of the late Free State Convention, held at Lawrence, and that the preamble and resolutions adopted by the said Convention, meet with our entire approbation.
Resolved, 2d, That if the Legislature now in session, shall co-operate with said Convention, and pass the necessary laws to submit the Territory and Lecompton Constitution to the legal voters of the Territory, that we will aid and assist in every way necessary to effect its object.
Resolved, 3d, That we will resist to the life, if necessary, all attempts to force upon the people of this Territory, a Constitution which has not been submitted to them for approval or disapproval—but we will submit to the will of the majority, when fairly and freely expressed.
Resolved, 4th, That our Delegates elected to attend the late Convention, performed their duties to our entire satisfaction, and that they have our warmest thanks for the energetic manner in which they have acquitted themselves in our behalf.
On motion, it was resolved to appoint a Committee of Vigilance, consisting of three members—Messrs. Orrville Root, Benjamin Winkle, and Franklin O. Sawin.
On motion, it was resolved that the proceedings of the meeting be forwarded to the WHITE CLOUD CHIEF for publication.
After several entertaining speeches from gentlemen present, the meeting adjourned.
ISAIAH P. WINSLOW, President.
DANIEL McFARLAND, Secretary.

PRESERVE THE PARTY AS IT IS.—There are some persons in Kansas who seem desirous to fasten the name of Republican upon our Free State party, and make it subserve the interests of that party in the States. Again and again we repeat, that the Free State element of Kansas is made up of the members of all parties, and are held together only for their love of freedom. While we thank the Republicans in the States for their sympathy, exhibited in a thousand ways towards the Free State cause, yet we have thousands of genuine Democrats of the Buchanan stripe among us, co-operating with the Free State party. Set up the standard of Republicanism and we drive out from us all, or nearly all the old Democrats, as well as a majority of the American vote, which is not a small element of strength. The only hope of the Free State party is in standing firm upon the Big Springs platform. To erect another platform would be to break us up into a thousand pieces.—Herald of Freedom.